

Calendar No. 931

77TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6263

[Report No. 945]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 22, 1941

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interstate Commerce

JANUARY 7 (legislative day, JANUARY 6), 1942

Reported by Mr. WHEELER, without amendment

AN ACT

To amend section 606 of the Communications Act of 1934 for the purpose of granting to the President, in time of war or threatened war, certain powers with respect to communications by wire.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That section 606 of the Communications Act of 1934, as
4 amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, title 47, sec. 606), is
5 hereby amended by striking out “(d)” in subsection (d) and
6 inserting in lieu thereof “(c)”, and by inserting after sub-
7 section (c) a new subsection as follows:

8 “(d) Upon proclamation by the President that there ex-
9 ists a state or threat of war involving the United States, the

1 President, if he deems it necessary in the interest of the na-
2 tional security and defense, may, during a period ending not
3 later than six months after the termination of such state or
4 threat of war and not later than such earlier date as the Con-
5 gress by concurrent resolution may designate, (1) suspend
6 or amend the rules and regulations applicable to any or all
7 facilities or stations for wire communication within the juris-
8 diction of the United States as prescribed by the Commission,
9 (2) cause the closing of any facility or station for wire com-
10 munication and the removal therefrom of its apparatus and
11 equipment, or (3) authorize the use or control of any such
12 facility or station and its apparatus and equipment by any
13 department of the Government under such regulations as he
14 may prescribe, upon just compensation to the owners.”

15 SEC. 2. Such section 606 is further amended by insert-
16 ing at the end thereof two new subsections as follows:

17 “(f) Nothing in subsection (c) or (d) shall be con-
18 strued to amend, repeal, impair, or affect existing laws or
19 powers of the States in relation to taxation or the lawful
20 police regulations of the several States, except wherein such
21 laws, powers, or regulations may affect the transmission of
22 Government communications, or the issue of stocks and bonds
23 by any communication system or systems.

24 “(g) Nothing in subsection (c) or (d) shall be con-
25 strued to authorize the President to make any amendment

1 to the rules and regulations of the Commission which the
2 Commission would not be authorized by law to make; and
3 nothing in subsection (d) shall be construed to authorize
4 the President to take any action the force and effect of which
5 shall continue beyond the date after which taking of such
6 action would not have been authorized.”

Passed the House of Representatives December 19, 1941.

Attest:

SOUTH TRIMBLE,

Clerk.

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